

REMARKS

Claims 1-20 and 22-24 are pending in the present application.

Claims 1-4 and 6-13 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Barnes, U.S. Patent No. 4,795,547 ("Barnes").

Claims 5, 14-20 and 22-24 have been indicated as being allowable. Applicants thank the Examiner for this indication of allowability.

Claim 1 has now been amended. Claims 5 and 21 have now been cancelled without prejudice. No new matter has been added. Reconsideration of the application in view of the amendment and following remarks is respectfully requested.

Rejection of Claims 1-4 and 6-13 under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a)

Claims 1-4 and 6-13 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Barnes, U.S. Patent No. 4,795,547 ("Barnes").

Independent claim 1 has now been amended to include the limitations of allowable dependant claim 5, which has now been cancelled. It is respectfully submitted that amended claim 1 as well as its remaining dependant claims 2-4 and 6-17 are allowable over the cited reference for at least the same reasons as claim 5 is.

Withdrawal of the rejection of claims 1-4 and 6-13 under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Barnes is respectfully requested.

CONCLUSION

In view of the above amendment, Applicants believe the pending application is in condition for allowance.

The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any unpaid fees deemed required in connection with this submission, including any additional filing or application processing fees required under 37 C.F.R. §1.16 or 1.17, or to credit any overpayment, to Deposit Account No. 04-0100.

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Respectfully submitted,

By 

Erik R. Swanson

Registration No.: 40,833

DARBY & DARBY P.C.

P.O. Box 770

Church Street Station

New York, New York 10008-0770

(212) 527-7700

(212) 527-7701 (Fax)

Attorneys/Agents For Applicants